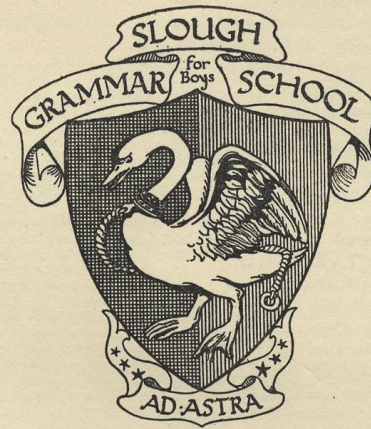


# THE SWAN



JULY, 1943

No. 9



## Slough Grammar School Magazine

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### EDITORIAL

Last November, in a Speech Day address conspicuous by its appeal to the most mature and thoughtful members of the school, our visitor urged the older boys to think into the future, and to repay the debt they owed their parents by resolving to give their own children the best education possible. The speaker looked to a liberal education to help "to pull the world out of its present mess."

Education is very much "in the air" just now. It is likely to remain there unless we make up our minds soon on some important points. Writers and speakers great and small are busy planning post-war education; the subject is a popular one in Brains Trusts; one noble lord has notoriously damned the products of local secondary schools as "timid clerks." The war-record of the "timid clerks" from this school will be found elsewhere in these pages. What matters, however, is not what other people think about education, not what kind of schools editors and propagandists think we ought to have, but what kind of schools we ourselves want for our children. We are too accustomed to think of the future in terms of what **THEY** will do for us—"they" being the government and the people in power. No democracy will work until its members think of the government as **WE**, not **THEY**. Before we condemn anything that **THEY** do, we ought to ask if **WE** have done anything to prevent it. How do we set about bringing our wills to bear upon the future? How are we to get the kind of schools we want for the coming generation? The first step is to make up our own minds and not expect others to do it for us. That is the essence of a liberal education—the education which a Grammar School offers, the education which can make democracy work. The newspapers and the wireless surround us with the voices of people trying to make up our minds for us. If we can resist them, criticise them, distinguish between the wrong and the right ones, we shall have gone some way towards getting a liberal education.

A word to the critical—of whom it is hoped there are many. What has all this to do with a school magazine? Everything—for here is a paper which you write, most of it, yourselves. If there is anything in it you don't like—and no school magazine escapes the severest criticism—ask yourselves, "What contribution did I submit which might have been published instead?" This is a challenge, and an invitation—including a most cordial invitation to write next year's editorial.

### SCHOOL NOTES

The problem of accommodation has been slightly eased by taking over for school purposes two newly-erected Rest Centre huts opposite the caretaker's lodge. The number of pupils remains steady at about 500.

There have, fortunately, been few staff changes during the year. Mr. P. B. Jones left in July, 1942, and was replaced by Mr. T. F. Hesketh. During the summer holiday we were shocked to learn that Mr. Millican, who had served on the staff from September, 1942, to April, 1943, had been drowned while bathing. No members of staff are leaving this term, but two additional masters are to be appointed to commence duties in September.

The 1942 examination results were particularly gratifying. Five boys gained Higher School Certificates. H. J. Groves and J. J. Warren were awarded County Major Scholarships. Warren was placed on the reserve list for a State Scholarship. Seventy-five School Certificates were gained—nearly twice as many as in 1941 : 33 of the candidates qualified for exemption from London Matriculation.

The following boys have been selected to attend University Short Courses :—

Royal Navy : I. S. Cummins.

Army : B. W. H. Wickham.

R.A.F. : P. J. Bezer, D. L. Cossey, D. C. Hemmingway, E. J. Jenner, J. Nelson.

The numerous out-of-school activities referred to in last year's issue of the Magazine continue to flourish. There are few boys who are not devoting some of their spare time to assisting the war effort.

The casualty list of Old Boys unfortunately grows. It is with great regret we have to add the following names :—

Barriemore Blundell (1931-34), Flight-Sgt., R.A.F. Killed during operations over Germany, August, 1942.

Donald P. Shanley (1933-34), Observer, R.A.F. Killed in action 30th September, 1942.

Harold T. Thomas (1931-36), Wireless Operator, R.N. Lost on H.M.S. Ullswater, November, 1942.

Reginald A. Lees (1927-32), Coder, R.N. Lost on H.M.S. Avenger, November, 1942.

Royston J. C. W. Giles (1932-38), Flying Officer, R.A.F. Killed in action, Middle East, December, 1942.

Victor A. Poole (1930-36). Missing in Malaya, January, 1943.

Gerald P. Stone (1928-33), Flying Officer, R.A.F. Killed in action, North Africa February, 1943.

Edward E. Robbins (1931-36), R.A.F. Killed while on convoy duty in the Mediterranean, December, 1942.

Donald H. Chard (1923-27), L.A.C., R.A.F. Killed in action, North Africa, February, 1943.

William Nicholson (1929/35), Sgt. Pilot, R.A.F. Missing from operations over Germany May, 1943.

Wallace D. Devereux (1930-33), Pilot Officer, R.A.F., is a prisoner of war in Germany.

We also deeply regret to record the death of Flying Officer E. A. Legrand, R.A.F., who was killed during air operations off the coast of North Africa on 23rd April, 1943. F/O. Legrand was a master at the school from September, 1938, until he joined the R.A.F. in October, 1940.

Mr. Legrand will remain long in the memory of those who knew him here, for the school seemed always to occupy the first place in his thoughts. We shall remember him for his cheerful and tireless devotion to his work, in school and out, and as one whose worth fully merited the popularity and esteem he earned among both boys and masters. Tributes are paid to his memory elsewhere in these pages.

We offer our sympathy, too, to Mr. Paisley, whose only son (a pilot in the R.A.F.) is reported missing from air operations over a German city in May, 1943. We sincerely hope that news of his safety may soon be received.

Honours have been awarded to the following :—

Richard J. Cork (1928-32), Lieut., Fleet Air Arm. In the Battle of Britain, 1940, he was awarded the D.S.C. and D.F.C. In November, 1942, he further distinguished himself by gaining the D.S.O. for conspicuous gallantry during the passage of a large convoy to Malta.

Wilfred Watts (1925-29), Flying Officer, R.A.F., was awarded the D.F.C. for navigating his aircraft with coolness and determination in the face of adverse weather and strong enemy opposition. Up to May, 1943, he had taken part in 33 operational flights over German and Italian cities.

## SPEECH DAY, 1942

Speech Day and Prize Distribution were held on November 26th, 1942. Mr. L. S. R. Byrne, Chairman of the Governors, presided. The prizes and certificates were presented by Mr. W. Hope-Jones, of Eton College.

In his annual report the Headmaster spoke of the difficulties of the school in the matter of accommodation—difficulties which he hoped would be partially relieved in the near future. He went on to refer to the examination successes of the senior boys during the past year, and to the school's various contributions to the war effort. National Savings, farming, the Messenger Service, Rest Centre parties, fire watching teams and Christmas mail delivery—in all these spheres of activity, and others, Grammar School boys were playing their part.

Mr. Clarke spoke with pride and sorrow of the sacrifice made by those Old Boys of the school who had lost their lives on active service. He concluded by thanking the staff and governors for their support, and the kitchen staff for the efficiency with which they had met increased demands on their efforts.

Mr. Hope-Jones, whose ringing words were appreciated in all parts of the hall, spoke of his own varied war-time activities and of the dangers of specialisation. "Learn your own subject," he urged, "but don't think it's the only one that matters, because a liberal education is going to do more to pull the world out of its present mess than all the technical education." He went on to recall with some emphasis the old commandment, "Honour thy father and thy mother." "Until you are parents yourselves," he said, "you won't realise what they have done for you, and when you do you will find it impossible to repay. But you are heavily in debt, and honest men want to repay, so what are you going to do about it? By supporting the link below. Repay then by giving your children the best education you can." Mr. Hope-Jones ended his most stimulating address by speaking of the falling birth-rate and the duties and responsibilities of marriage.

Besides the Chairman of the Governors, the Headmaster, and Mr. and Mrs. Hope-Jones, there were also present on the platform the Mayoress of Slough, the Vice-Provost of Eton, Mrs. E. H. Purnell, Miss L. Headington, Alderman E. O. Lewis, Mr. E. W. Page, Miss J. M. Crawford, Mr. C. Ford and Mr. F. Polmear.

The junior school choir sang two 2-part songs—"Non Nobis Domine" (Roger Quilter) and "Brother James' Air" (McBain).

The list of certificates and prizewinners was as follows :—

FORM IIc : Prize, M. W. Rees ; Certificates, A. G. Blunden and H. E. Morgan. FORM IIb : Prize, M. F. Madelin ; Certificates, J. W. Hunt and I. McCalla. FORM IIa : Prize, D. F. Klemperer ; Certificates, J. P. Heslop and G. H. White. FORM IIc : Prize, D. Pleace ; Certificates, B. H. Cole and W. G. Hanks. FORM IIb : Prize, S. W. Spuffard ; Certificates, J. Kirkpatrick and J. Harker. FORM IIIa : Prize, D. Morgan ; Certificates, E. Hill and P. Scott. FORM IVc : Prize, F. A. Sendell ; Certificates, E. J. Lowe and W. L. Thwaite. FORM IVb : Prize, P. J. W. Young ; Certificates, R. F. Wenborne and L. Doiban. FORM IVa : Prize, H. Klemperer ; Certificates, P. Marler and M. Waghorn. FORM SHELL : Prize, A. R. Bishop ; Certificates, R. O. Brettell and F. E. Deer.

OXFORD SCHOOL CERTIFICATE, WITH MATRICULATION EXEMPTION, FORMS Va, Vb, Vc.—Prizes (presented by Mr. H. F. Allen) : D. J. Dewar, W. H. Smith, P. B. Britten. Certificates : C. E. Cox, K. Hodges, L. Reid, V. L. Woodford, P. M. Edmunds, I. K. Morgan, D. S. Cummins, R. J. Millership, D. E. Simmance, H. J. I. Bryant, G. M. Fraser, J. N. Wilson, I. S. Cummins, D. S. Palmer, W. Warr, C. D. Cook, D. C. Marris, R. F. Wilson, C. Gunn, R. A. Parrett, P. F. Wilson, G. P. T. Crannigan, K. R. Martin.

SCHOOL CERTIFICATES : G. H. Ainsley, J. F. Chapman, S. A. Essex, D. E. Pitcher, R. Christie, N. R. Palmer, L. E. Summers, R. J. Hackshall, D. S. Phillips, A. Walker, A. Bond, D. T. Coleman, R. Ford, F. C. Spaul, G. F. Cullimore, D. J. W. Rose, J. H. Armstrong, J. D. Hales, R. W. Southwell, F. J. E. Robotham, D. C. Bryant, E. J. Denham, A. J. Lomas, A. F. Tanner, P. Ford, L. G. H. Simmonds, J. M. Bayes, N. Lonsdale, R. J. W. Streeton, G. O. Butler, G. H. Edwards, D. Nicholas, F. H. Biggs, P. R. Linwood, P. F. Smart, G. G. Deeks, D. Packman, H. J. Tabraham.

OXFORD HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATES AND PRIZES : H. J. Groves (prize presented by Mr. E. T. Bowyer, J.P., C.C.), J. J. Warren (prize presented by the Vice-Provost of Eton).

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATES : P. B. Costiff, L. A. Watson, B. W. H. Wickham.

MUSIC PRIZE (presented by Mr. L. W. Piner) : W. Walker.

BRITISH NATIONAL CADET ASSOCIATION WAR CERTIFICATE "A" Parts 1 and 2 : Cadet Under Officer P. Ford, Sgt. G. B. Borwell, Sgt. D. J. Dewar, Sgt. D. S. Palmer.

## CADET CORPS

The news of the death in action of Flying Officer E. A. Legrand was a great shock to those members of the School Cadet Corps who had served under him before he left to take up his commission in the R.A.F. All who knew him will appreciate the enthusiasm and energy he devoted to the interests of the Corps. These were clearly demonstrated when, in 1941, he gave up his seven days' leave to assist us in our camp at Dropmore. His loss is one which will be deeply felt by members of the Corps who had looked forward to his return after the war.

Since our notes in last year's magazine, further changes have occurred in the organisation and administration of the School Cadet Corps. The 1st Bucks Cadet Battalion, of which we form No. 1 Company, was formed in October, 1942, and now comprises seven companies extending over the South Bucks area from Taplow to Wraysbury and Iwer Heath. The Battalion C.O. is Lt.-Col. W. R. Bowden, and Battalion H.Q. are at Horlicks, Slough. The School Company now has a total strength of 120. As this includes a number of boys under 14 who are not "recognised," there are still some vacancies for recruits over 14 years of age.

Twenty-eight cadets attended the annual camp of the Public Secondary Schools Cadet Association held last year at Weston-on-Trent, Derbyshire. This camp was enjoyed very much by all who went, and proved of great value in their training. This year we are expecting to send a larger contingent to the P.S.S.C.A. Camp which is to be held near Gloucester during the period 26th July—6th August. Cadets who were unable to go to Weston-on-Trent had the opportunity of camping at Dropmore, where a combined unit camp was held of cadets from Latymer Upper School and from Slough Grammar School. This camp was under the direction of Capt. Wiggins (Latymer) and 2/Lt. R. J. Vivash, and proved very successful. We are indebted to the Commandant of No. 5 Canadian General Hospital, R.C.A.M.C., and to the Manager, Cliveden Estates, for their courtesy in affording to us facilities for swimming in the river at Cliveden Reach.

The War Office have continued to hold courses for cadets at the Command Schools of Physical and Recreational Training. Sgt. Elliott attended one of these courses during the Christmas holidays, and during the Easter holidays a similar course was attended by C.S.M. Borwell, Sgt. Dewar, Sgt. May, Cpl. Kerridge, and Cadet Robinson. The reports received on these cadets have been very satisfactory, and it is hoped that the efficiency of the company will continue to improve as a result of further cadets being able to attend such courses during the summer holidays.

War Certificate "A" training has continued throughout the year. Seventeen out of 18 candidates were successful in passing the Part I (Individual) examination this term. A course for Part II (Section Leading) is now in progress. Those cadets who attend the P.S.S.C.A. Camp will have an opportunity of taking the Certificate "A" examinations (parts I and II) at camp. In addition to this training, shooting practice has been held on Saturday mornings at the Drill Hall, Wellington Street.

The Company Commander received a letter from Major Wardall, Commanding C Coy., 9th Bucks H.G., expressing his appreciation of the very efficient manner in which some members of the School Corps carried out their duties while attached to his company during a combined military and civil defence exercise on 29th November, 1942. Well done! This is the sort of report we are very proud to receive, and which helps to build up a fine record for our Company.

Two field days were held last term. The first, on 26th February, consisted of a contact platoon action extending from the school to Old Windsor via Datchet, followed by an exercise involving platoons in attack and defence. The second, on 16th March, was due to an invitation from the Officer Commanding Eton College J.T.C. to take part in an exercise with them in Windsor Great Park. This day proved memorable for all who took part, as the cadets were played through Windsor and Eton by the band of H.M. Life Guards, and on the exercise they were fortunate in being supplied with a quantity of "blank" ammunition. Our thanks are due to Col. Jaques, of the Eton College J.T.C., for providing us with a very successful and instructive field day, and to Capt. Leicester, K.R.R.C., adjutant of the 9th Bucks Battalion H.G., for his interest and assistance.

The company took part in the first parade of the recently formed 1st Bucks Cadet Battalion which was held in the forecourt of the Adelphi Cinema on Sunday, 21st March. The Battalion was inspected by Maj.-Gen. Sir Richard Howard-Vyse, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., and afterwards proceeded into the cinema, where they enjoyed an all-star variety matinee given in aid of the Battalion Welfare Fund. The artistes included George Formby and Beryl, Bennett and Williams, Patricia Burke, Miss Doris Ashton, Stanelli, and the band of H.M. Life Guards. This show was a great success and raised over £600 for the Battalion Welfare Fund. The Company was also represented in the Special Parades on Empire Youth Sunday, on the opening day of Slough's "Wings For Victory" Week, when the salute was taken by H.R.H. Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, and on the final day of that week, when the combined pre-service units held a gymkhana on the ground of the Licensed Victuallers' School.

The following have passed War Certificate "A" Part I during the past year: Cpl. (Actg. Sgt.) P. B. May, Cpl. A. R. Bishop, L/Cpl. F. R. E. Deer, L/Cpl. G. E. Power, L/Cpl. E. W. Sims, L/Cpl. F. B. Jackson, L/Cpl. J. Q. Smith, Actg. L/Cpl. T. W. Clayton, Cadets D. T. H. Coleman, J. V. Evans, E. A. Lowden, G. H. Lucas, E. A. Ridgway, D. G. G. Robinson, A. D. Rose, M. D. Sayers, M. G. H. Simmons, D. G. Thorowgood, W. E. Wight, J. P. W. Young.

#### NATIONAL SAVINGS

The year ending March 31st, 1943, did not have a week of special effort. The total subscribed through the school group amounted to £1,976 8s. 1d., or about £50 per week, on the average. The grand total (since 1917) has now reached £12,145 17s. 11d.

A special effort to recruit regular savers will be made during the forthcoming "Wings For Victory" Week, June 5—12th.

As we go to press, we learn that the amount collected by the school in the National Savings Movement during Wings for Victory Week was £1,294 2s. 4d.

W.A.J.

#### LIBRARY NOTES

Approximately 65 per cent. of the members of the school now possess borrowers' tickets, showing an increase of 5 per cent. over the figures for last year. The number of fines have also increased, but these are out of all proportion to the additional books issued. It would be to everybody's advantage if the books were returned promptly.

There have been about three hundred additions to the Library since last summer. Many of these books are of a topical nature.

A Social and Dance was held at the school on 3rd April, 1943, and over seven pounds was realised for the Library funds. The greater part of this money has been used to buy new books and fresh stocks of bookbinding materials.

S.W.J.

#### AN OUTSTANDING PRESENTATION

Last term the school was fortunate in receiving from Mr. Byrne, Chairman of our Governors, the magnificent gift of the fifteen volumes of the New Oxford English Dictionary, together with its supplement; the six volumes of the English Dialect Dictionary; and about thirty books of French literature. For these and other books we are deeply indebted to Mr. Byrne.

We are extremely proud to possess the great Oxford Dictionary, and some account of its origin and nature will not be out of place here.

The conception of a completely new English dictionary took place in 1858, and work on it was begun by Herbert Coleridge and Dr. F. J. Furnivall. The labour of collecting materials alone took twenty years, and it was not until 1878, when Dr. J. A. H. Murray took charge, that the active preparation of the dictionary itself began. The first part was published in 1884, when it was calculated that it would not be completed for another twelve years. It was not in fact finished until 1928, seventy years from its inception. Dr. (afterwards Sir James) Murray did not live to see the work completed, but more than half was produced under his personal editorship. He was succeeded by Dr. H. Bradley, Dr. (now Sir William) Alexander Craigie, and Dr. Charles Onions.

The essential feature of the dictionary is its historical method, by which the meaning and form of the words are traced from their earliest known appearance, on the basis of an immense number of quotations, collected by more than 800 voluntary workers. The dictionary contains a record of 414,825 words, whose history is illustrated by 1,827,306 quotations. An important supplement, included in the present donation, which rounds off the work by bringing all parts of the alphabet up to date, appeared in 1933.

T. Crannigan (Librarian).

#### THE JUNIOR CHOIR

During the past year the Junior Choir has been active: a concert in July, songs for Speech Day, a Carol Concert at Christmas, and in April an entry for the Slough Music Festival, on which occasion it obtained second place in its particular group. Alan Mayfield carried off first prize in the Under Twelve solo entry.

In the Autumn Term about two hundred boys attended a concert given by a section of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, under the conductorship of Dr. Leslie Russell, who has also given two lectures at the school.

It is hoped that the Junior Choir, in collaboration with the orchestra, will give a programme devoted to the music of Handel, at the end of term, and will take part in a Folk Song Festival organised by the County Music Adviser.



### THE DRAMATIC SOCIETY

The youngest of the school activities, the Dramatic Society, has progressed very well during the past term. It is as small as it is young, boasting only six members.

Work was commenced at the beginning of the term on "Windsor Castle," a play by L. du Garde Peach. This was abandoned, however, when news of the Youth Festival at the Social Centre reached the ears of Mr. Purvis. With little time to spare a one-act play by Clemence Dane entitled "Shivering Shocks" was begun. This was entered in the drama section of the competition. We obtained second place, and had the distinction of being the only male competitors in the senior section. The second forms had the fortune, or misfortune, of seeing the dress-rehearsal performed in the school hall. A certificate was won, which was very encouraging to all the members, especially the producer, who put much work and time into the production of the play.

Plans for the future are unsettled, as five of the present six members are leaving this term. New members will be very welcome.

A. F. Layzell.

### IN PRAISE OF IDLENESS

I am lazy. I suppose I am lazy by nature. Who wants to rush about and work? How much easier to lie in the sun in summer, or sit by the fire in winter with an interesting magazine. To be idle is very simple. All one does is to think of a really exhilarating, brisk thing to do; and do the opposite.

How pleasant it is to do very little. And how wise. The greatest thinkers and philosophers were all idle men. Lying on a couch of soft heather, or drowsily watching a gull in flight, one may conceive great things. Idleness is a magic carpet. In an idle moment, one may travel across half a world. One may visit India, or see in imagination the towers of Persia rise from the horizon. The idle man must have imagination.

In the East, men have made of idleness an exact science. Women may work, but not the men. They laze in the sun; and good luck to them. "He who is idle makes himself rich."

L. Tyers.

### SILVERSIDES

Silversides was a merry little fellow. His life was a gay one; he frolicked in the ripples of the stream that wound its way through the green meadows, and his days were full of the zest of living. Well indeed could he be likened to the "hare of the river," for he was so swift and speedy, cutting the water with superb grace.

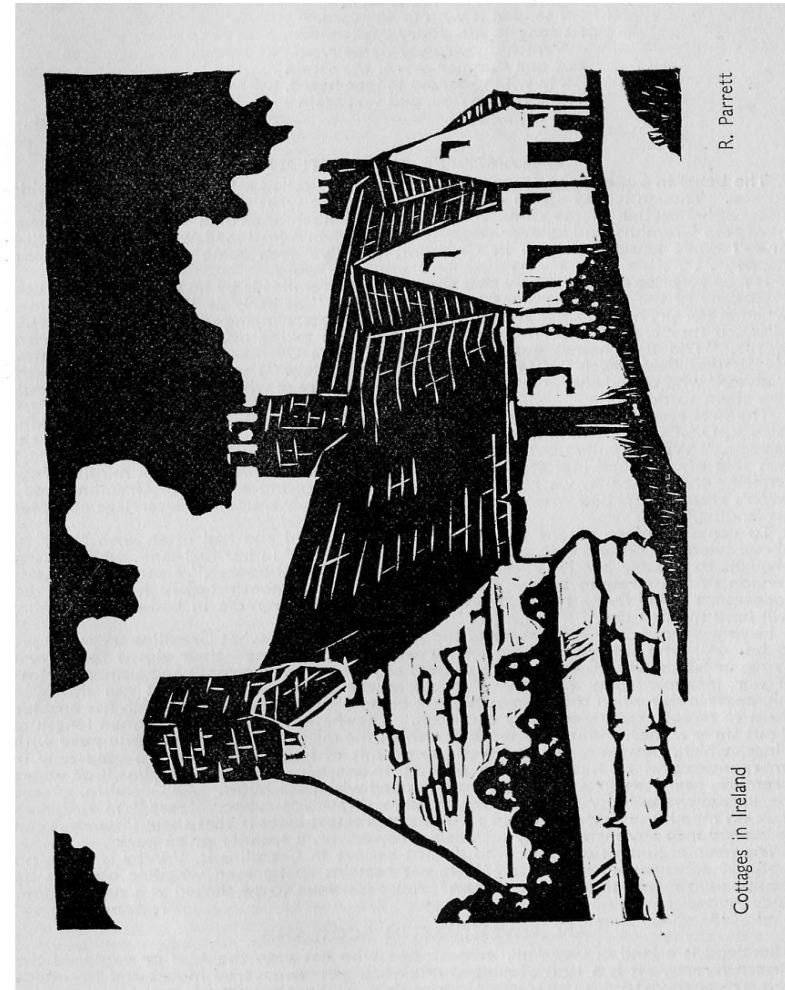
He was built for swiftness. He soared in the shallows and leaped out at the dancing flies, a comely, beautiful fellow with silver-green sides and a back of dull sea-green—a colour that needed a heron's eye to pick him out as he swayed to and fro amongst the green trailing woods.

And he rejoiced with his fellows, for he was fond of the company of his kind. It was a pretty sight to see them battling against the clear, swift current, turning, twisting, darting here and there. Flashes, like the reflection of summer lightning, come and go in the limpid depths as the fish twist and twirl. Ever and anon they shoot forward, spilling the light about, and when the greedy pike rushes out from his lair upon them they scatter, and some leap clean out of the water.

Perhaps you have guessed that Silversides was a salmon, one of the prettiest little fish of the river—a fine fellow with an elegantly tapered form, flanks that gleam like the silver of a new sixpence, shot with greenish tints, a forked tail, and fins of a dusky hue. His very shape denotes speed.

A year has passed. Silversides is now a lusty half-pounder. For once discretion was overlooked; he leaped at every insect that came near. And at last there came bobbing across the shallows a string of black gnats. Silversides shot up and snatched. Had he but known, it, those flies were connected by a fine cast to the gut of a fisherman's line. He discovered too late that this gnat had a string in its tail. He fought gamely for life. He cut the water like a silver arrow. He splashed on the surface, and tugged with all his strength to get away from that which held, yet yielded to all his rushes. Finally his plucky heart failed him, and with a last splash, he allowed himself to be drawn into the angler's landing-net—a fate that is frequently the lot of the "river swallows" which leap at the dancing flies on a summer's evening.

M. D. Sayers.



R. Parrett

Cottages in Ireland

### THE BIRD

I had a bird, I loved it well,  
I tended it with loving care,  
Its song to me a fairy spell  
Which drove away despair.  
But one summer morn, the strain  
My willing ear no longer heard,  
The bird had fled, and was again  
A happy bird.

G. Stock.

### AN AIRMEN'S SUPERSTITION

The belief in a species of aeronautical pixy, usually called a "Gremlin," is very widespread. Though it may sound odd, especially among what you would suppose to be a progressive section of the community, a large number of airmen will swear that they have seen Gremlins, and an ever larger number, when questioned, will admit, "Well—er—I don't actually believe in Gremlins, but I've seen some pretty queer things happen . . . ."

It may surprise some to know that the belief in Gremlins is by no means new. Cody, "Colonel of the Air," mentions in his "Memoirs" as early as 1900 that sometimes, when in the air, he saw small creatures, rather like bats, clinging to his machine. British pilots, if they crashed into the aerodrome fence on taking off, were greeted with the words, "Did the gnomes get your motor?" The German pilot's farewell greeting "Hals und Bein bruch" ("Break your neck and legs") was meant to mislead the "elves," who would always attempt to do the opposite of what they thought you would like them to do.

The first recorded use of the word "Gremlin" is found in a letter by Captain John Alcock, D.S.O., to a friend after a historic Atlantic crossing. In this letter occurs the passage, "When I pulled out of that nearly-but-not-quite spin, the sole cause of which was that my airspeed indicator and my artificial horizon failed within a minute of our entering that fog-bank, we realised that we were carrying a cargo of Gremlins, and I wasn't greatly surprised when our (up till then) perfectly sound undercarriage collapsed on landing."

To come to more recent times, Amelia Earhart said she had often seen "sprites" above twenty thousand feet, and attributed the "leak" in her fuel-tank, which nearly brought to disaster her 1932 Atlantic flight, to a "Petrol-booster," a particularly nasty version of the Gremlin type. The same lady, only a month before her tragic disappearance while flying round the world, said, "I'll never die in bed—the Gremlins will have me one day."

Having glanced over the history of the species, let us see what Gremlins are supposed to be. All who believe in them are agreed upon one thing—their aim is to prevent flying, or failing this, to do as much damage as possible to all aircraft and airmen. Most of our informants say that these creatures are perfectly visible but can shrink to microscopic size when they know they are being observed—a power which has enabled them to escape capture on many occasions. They have, however, a maximum length of about three inches, and usually work like this: the majority appear to be equipped with wings, which, however, are too weak to permit of long flights and are used only in emergencies and to flip from one aircraft to another. The "Tremblins," or young Gremlins, have no wings at all, but are equipped with parachutes. All Gremlins, except the stratosphere "Sprites," are equipped with suction-rubber "feet" in order to walk on metal fuselages and wings; but their greatest asset is that their "hands" can be turned into any instrument, such as a screwdriver, a spanner or an auger.

The main argument of those who do not believe in Gremlins is, "Why is there no captured specimen in existence?" It yet remains to be seen whether one can be caught. Until that time "Gremlinism" must continue to be classed as a superstition.

T. Schwaetzer.

### AN ADVENTURE IN SCOTLAND

Scotland is a land of wonders, even to one who has seen the Alps or explored the African forests. It is a land of rugged mountains, gorse-covered moors and fir-woods whose red-brown trunks rise solemnly in long aisles farther than the eye can see. Scotland has a beauty of its own that has been the same for centuries, calm and unruffled.

One summer day my cousin and I were walking along a track that led into one of these same mysterious fir-woods. What a change from the hot brilliance of the sunshine!

The air was fragrant with the scent of fir-trees. The soft moss into which our feet sank deep at every step was like the most exquisite of carpets. The flickering network of gold over the tree-trunks, the yellow and green lights that quivered through the dusky vistas, and the faint twitter of the birds high in the rustling branches all added to the beauty of the scene.

Suddenly we came upon our goal—an old, ivy-covered monastery with broken walls and narrow, crumbling steps leading to subterranean vaults, the last resting-place of long-forgotten men, and over all a tower, almost intact, a giant looking grimly down on the remains of what had once been a thriving home of work and prayer.

Behind the tower was the chapel, whose heavy door we succeeded after some time in pushing open. What a sight met our eyes! To the loveliness of its clustered pillars, delicately pointed arches and mullioned window-frames was added the solemnity of age and disuse. No voice seemed ever to have echoed through those ruined aisles. All at once my cousin discovered that the door had stuck fast behind us and, try as we might, our combined efforts had no effect upon its solid oak mass. The beauty of the place disappeared. We no longer noticed the sculpted capitals. Instead we looked fearfully at the ivy-covered windows, and in the eerie green twilight we shivered as we thought of what might happen if nobody came. It grew darker, and as we looked round our thoughts turned to the monks who had once raised their songs of praise in this same quiet chapel. Where were they now? Mouldering skulls and disjointed limbs in the deep vaults underneath.

Then we noticed a small aperture through which we squeezed, and to our delight we found ourselves outside in the remains of the cloister. We started to run and as the last rays of the sun faded from the western sky we reached home, there to dream of our experience of the afternoon.

J. Hallifax.

### ADVENTURE

I'd like to be a pirate  
And sail the seven seas,  
With a tarry plaited pigtail  
And breeches to my knees.

I'd like to be a pirate  
And fight the raging main,  
And rob the laden Galleons  
From the sunny shores of Spain.

I'd like to be a pirate  
With a cutlass at my side  
I'd sail upon the deep blue sea  
At any time or tide.

J. F. Davis.

### THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A RAILWAY ENGINE

Ah, how enjoyable, but sometimes how tiring it is to be a railway engine: enjoyable to be running over new track on a new route to a hitherto unvisited town or city—tiring to climb steep gradients after a hard day's work, hauling some heavy excursion-train full of people who have been out to have a good time and who don't spare a single thought for the poor engine who has been striving to do his best for them. Of course, there are some of us who aren't so conscientious. These are usually those that have been mishandled early in life. Oh yes! we have our moods and feelings. I myself was not thus mishandled, but have been carefully tended all my days.

On the morning of August 23rd in the year 1938 I steamed slowly and with great pride out of the engineering shops at Doncaster, a majestic Pacific locomotive, resplendent in a coat of brilliant leaf-green and black paint. I well mind the date, for it was a great occasion for me and the sun shone with all its might as if in recognition of that fact. So it was that I, "Papyrus," started my career. After my trial runs, in which I excelled most others in efficiency, power and speed, I was introduced to my few but trustworthy friends, my drivers and firemen. There are six pairs who drive me, in rotation, but the two that I like best are a middle-aged driver who handles me very carefully (unlike some, who wrench and pull at the levers and handles) and his mate, who knows exactly when I need coal and takes care not to throw it all over my cab, and sees I am well oiled before each journey. My main job is hauling important expresses such as "The Flying

Scotsman, "The Queen of Scots" and in summer time, "The Scarborough Flyer." Sometimes in the summer time, also, there are the special trip-trains to the Yorkshire seaside resorts. I well remember one occasion when I was scheduled to pull one. My favourite driver and fireman were at the controls and we had set out on time from Kings Cross. We were well under way with a grand head of steam, rolling gaily along in the bright summer sunshine and I was settling down for a comfortable trip, when suddenly there was a grinding of brakes somewhere down the train. Looking round, I saw that one of the coaches was on fire. Passengers were scurrying hither and thither half-dazed. The fireman ran to the nearest signal-box to warn the signalman, while the driver went to help fight the fire. But the fire appliances were of no avail and finally we had to leave the gutted coach, and the two damaged coaches behind it, where they were. When we reached our destination we were an hour late—a sore mark on my pride.

Yes, my life is varied, but normally it is pleasantly peaceful and quiet. It is very interesting to watch the scenery as it whizzes past, to race through grimy, smoky towns and catch glimpses of the hustle and bustle of industry, to bowl through the countryside, up hill and down dale, to shoot over viaducts and bridges and look down on the rivers and valleys they span, to pierce dark, mysterious tunnels which never seem to end, and finally to reach the end of the journey safe and sound, but rather tired, and take a well-earned rest.—Ah! there's the guard's whistle—good-bye.

M. Crowther.

#### GHOSTS

Agamemnon used to boast  
He was not frightened of a ghost,  
Until one day he saw a spectre  
Which had once been Hector.

Long John Silver used to hint  
He wasn't scared of Captain Flint;  
But when he heard a voice he knew,  
He fled with all his crew.

Scrooge the skinflint used to gloat  
O'er silver, gold and ten-pound note;  
But Marley's ghost has made him wiser  
And he's no more a miser.

D. Anderson, D. Admans, I. L. Jones.

#### MY FIRST FLIP

I was feeling very disappointed on that Thursday parade. My reason—a party of cadets was going to an aerodrome on the following Sunday; their names had just been read out, and I was not included in the list. The parade was dismissed and, as is the usual practice, envious and rude remarks were being hurled at the lucky ones by the unfortunates. Whilst this was going on, the officer in charge came up to me.—Another N.C.O. was needed: would I be free on Sunday? I gave a hasty and eager affirmative and in due turn became the object of the previously mentioned remarks, which I didn't mind in the slightest.

Sunday morning came, and with it a lot of cloud. The weather did not look at all promising but everybody was at the appointed place at the proper time: when most people were beginning to think of getting up. After a roll call we climbed into the coach which was to take us to the aerodrome. A scramble ensued, everyone doing his utmost to get possession of the seat which took his fancy. The N.C.O.s of the party, myself among them, took their place in the back seat, resisting all comers until the arrival of an officer quietened things considerably. We were soon under way, and before much time had elapsed everyone was singing. Spirits gradually got higher as we neared our destination. The weather was brightening, and the prospect of flying being before everybody, we were all feeling very pleased, if a little apprehensive: this was quite natural as only a few of the older members of the party had flown before and knew what was in store for us. Eventually we arrived and having been formed up into a squad, we had our flying permits or, as they are vulgarly termed, "blood chits," inspected. Everything being in order, we were split into two parties, one to be instructed on the Link Trainer and the other to go flying. I was included in the latter party. We marched off to the dispersal point of the aerodrome where the Tiger Moths and Magisters were

being attended to by the aircraft-hands and mechanics. After a wait of about 20 minutes a group of six pilot officers and sergeant pilots came up to us.—They were to take us up. The first six cadets went off to the parachute room to re-appear after a short time complete with flying helmets and very bulky parachutes fitted to them. They were soon esconced in aircraft and not much time elapsed before they were dwindling dots in the sky. The rest of us sat around in groups and talked, wishing the others would hurry back. A N.A.A.F.I. canteen lorry came along and we had just raided it and bought everything in it when our attention was diverted by the appearance of a Tiger Moth coming down very shakily. It stalled at about ten feet from the ground and dug its nose in. The pilot was an officer cadet doing his first solo and he came along to the canteen a little later apparently none the worse for his crack-up. By this time the other cadets had landed, one of them looking particularly white about the gills.

A sergeant pilot with the D.F.M. came up to me and told me to come along with him. I was issued with a helmet and a parachute which, when I tried to walk, hit me in the back of the legs and nearly made me sit down. However, I managed to get hold of it by the harness and keep it supported so that I could walk fairly easily. I was soon seated in a Magister. The pilot did up my harness straps and climbed into the front cockpit. By now I was feeling very queer, but there was nothing for it but to adopt a sort of "do or die" attitude. The pilot spoke to me over the speaking tube and asked if I was all right. I replied that I was, and we taxied off to the runway.

Into wind and away we go over the field. I am watching the air speed indicator and we are going at nearly sixty miles an hour when the earth drops away beneath us. The pilot goes into a climbing turn and I watch the instruments. When we reach 3,000 feet the pilot levels out, and on looking over the side I see below me the aerodrome, and away to the right the Thames winding its way and looking much more twisted than I would have thought it. Another thing that stands out very clearly is the white line which is easily visible running along the middle of the roads. We fly along level for some time, and then over the speaking tube I hear the pilot ask if I can recognise anything over on my left. What can I see there? A lot of tall chimneys smoking away and a large expanse of buildings. We turn back towards the aerodrome climbing a little. Soon we are in cloud, and the pilot asks if I would like some aerobatics. After two loops and a stall turn I am feeling like ten men, when the pilot says, "Would you like to take over for a while?" This brings me back to earth metaphorically and I don't know whether to say yes or no. Anyway the pilot says to me, "She's all yours now, fly straight and level for a bit and then try a gentle left turn"—I proceed to do so, but as I commence my turn we are suddenly enveloped in cloud. I look along the port wing and as the cloud disappears as suddenly as it came I see the ground apparently gyrating round the end of the wing. "Some gentle turn!" says a very sarcastic voice. Still, no harm is done, and we go in to land quite safely and with no bumps at all, having been in the air just over half an hour. When I got out of the plane my knees felt very weak and my stomach still seemed air-borne, but I was very pleased with myself—I had had my first flip.

V. L. WOODFORD.

#### THE SAILING SHIP

The heaving waves uplift her,  
Her planks and fittings strain:  
Her bows go down into the troughs,  
And the jibs fill out again.

She skims on the wings of the wind:  
The booms swing up and round:  
She sails with the speed of a hawk,  
Or an eager, unleashed hound.

The spray flies from the forefoot,  
The spars and rigging sing:  
Two men heave at the bucking wheel  
Of this graceful, swan-like thing.

She looks like a white, swift spectre,  
As darkness falls around:  
Her sails show white against the murk,  
As she fades, without a sound.

R. Ohlson





A Sailing Ship

J. Cowlshaw

#### A DAY AT A LIBYAN OASIS

Dawn at the Libyan oasis of Siwa is like a Turner ; a canvas streaked with bronze and pink. Always the same, it is ever different.

The rising sun lights first the crests of the hills to the east. Shafts of light turn the grey of a tiny, solitary cloud to rose. Up and up the sun glides. Wadis change from lifeless sulphur to glowing gold. Hot colour flows toward the oasis and cascades over the clustered palm trees in a warming shower. A white pigeon wheels eye-achingly in the brilliant blue sky. Already it is hot.

Ochre brown hills, the oasis buildings, a dilapidated Arab car, all wave and quiver in the heat haze. Only in the crowded shade of the date-palms is there escape from the relentless sun.

At noon Siwa lies bound in the silent hush of the dry heat. The tiny sounds of a bell on a goat's neck and the bright click of a horse's loose shoe fade quickly in the padded quiet.

Slowly the sun's brazen disc moves over the empty sky. The evening nears. The shadows begin to lengthen, for the sun is going down. The whole western sky is a mass of orange flame shot and splashed with livid crimson. It is like the prelude to Judgment Day. Now, as the sun finally sinks beneath the horizon the colour fades from a fierce throbbing vermilion to gold and rose. Soon, very soon, even that is gone. The brilliant stars snap in the cool, velvety darkness, and "the busy world is hushed to slumber."

L. Tyers.

#### PLEASURES

In Summer I like to ramble on an English hill and look up at the azure blue of the sky spaced with fleecy cotton-wool clouds. The green turf is springy beneath my feet, and the air is sweet. From the valley comes the tranquil bleating of sheep, and I can see brown and white cattle standing knee-deep in the cool waters of the river. Up above, a bird flutters through the air with a pleasant, joyful song.

I like to be down in a wood on a patch of green sward, close my eyes and doze. I hear the loud song of a blackbird, proclaiming that he is master of his territory. The leaves rustle as a gentle breeze wafts through the trees. The little stream bubbles and laughs as it meanders along, and a rabbit drinks timidly from a secluded pool. I breathe deeply the cool, clear air of the countryside.

In Winter, when it is cold, I like to read a good book in front of a blazing fire, or watch the strange shapes and faces among the glowing coals. I like to laze in an arm-chair after eating a magnificent English Christmas dinner, and wonder how much more I could have eaten. . .

Simple pleasures perhaps, idle pleasures for peace-time, but worth remembering, sometimes, for all that.

E. Sims.

#### THE LION

The forest was still dark, but faint streaks of light were beginning to filter through the leaves. The world was awaking. In the distance could be heard the laugh of a prowling hyena. The monkeys awoke and began to break the prevailing silence with their chatter. It was almost light now, and as the monkeys swung with agility from tree to tree, other inhabitants of the forest awoke and made their way singly or in groups to the watering-place.

A large herd of zebras slowly and carefully approached the pool, the leader occasionally raising his head to sniff the air for any sign of danger. He could smell none, and the herd, reaching the water, lowered their heads to drink. In the thicket, not ten yards away, lay the lion. He was a mighty creature. His black mane, contrasting with the yellow of his skin, covered the royal head. He did not move, but his big green eyes were measuring the distance between himself and the young zebra which was nearest him. Then his tail stirred and slowly rose. His muscles stiffened as he prepared for the spring. Another second and suddenly there was a warning noise from the leader of the herd, and as the lion streaked across the intervening space, the whole herd raced off into the thicket. The lion's claws grazed the back of the zebra he had chosen, but with a desperate effort it drew away and gained the safety of the forest.

With an angry roar the lion turned to face the intruder who had deprived him of his breakfast. A rhinoceros which had been coming for his morning drink at the pool had broken through the surrounding bushes and so unintentionally warned the zebras. He now stood regarding the enraged lion with his small red eyes. Then as the lion attacked, he lowered his horned head to meet the oncoming enemy. As the lion leapt to clear the few feet that separated them, the rhinoceros stepped forward and threw up his head. There was a roar of pain from his adversary, as the pointed horn tore into his breast and tossed him into the air. The lion fell, mortally wounded, at the feet of the furious rhinoceros, who trampled the remaining life out of him with his stumpy legs. Then, satisfied that his enemy was disposed of, he proceeded to the water for his interrupted drink. The zebras returned slowly, accompanied by many other grass-eating animals, to continue their watering.

As they finished and withdrew to their pasture, all fell quiet once more, except for the incessant chattering of the monkeys overhead.

E. Braun.

#### A MONTH ON A FARM

During the summer holidays, 1942, many boys from the school went to help on farms, some stayed at camps and went out daily to their work and others, like myself, actually lived on the farms.

The farm that I went to was only a small one of a hundred and fourteen acres, but it was delightfully situated a mile from the sea and only about half a mile from the glorious Yorkshire moors. My holiday was not only going to be used in helping the nation ; it was also going to provide a very welcome change from the dust and noise of the towns to which I am so used.

Setting out early one morning, I caught a train to Paddington, travelled across London to Kings Cross and was soon sitting in another train bound for York. This part of the journey was to take four hours and there would be only one stop during that time. However, after a moderate journey to York, another to Scarborough and another rather crowded one still further north, I finally arrived at a small village about seven miles north of Whitby. About six o'clock I arrived at the farm and was greeted with a marvellous supper which included white bread and butter, and ham. That night I slept like a log.



Next morning came, and at eight o'clock we had already milked the cows, fed the hens, taken the bull for a drink and were sitting down to breakfast—a breakfast with plenty more of the delicious ham and bread.

After breakfast we went out to hoe and thin out turnips, which after a few hours becomes a little back-breaking. Nevertheless good progress was made, and at ten o'clock the farmer's daughter brought us a can of tea and something to eat.—More work. Twelve o'clock saw us on our way back to the farm for a very large dinner, and one o'clock back in the fields again. Tea at four p.m. Cows milked at five p.m., and then I was free for the rest of the evening. Usually I would take out a twelve-boreshot gun and shoot a rabbit or two, or sometimes perhaps a partridge or pigeon.

About eight o'clock supper would be ready and soon after that we would all go up to bed to have a sound night's sleep.

During my month's stay, the different kinds of work done were too numerous to be related here, but one or two of them may be of interest.

One day we had to put rings in pigs' snouts. This was not easy and the noise that the pigs made was deafening. Another time we had to pull a young bull round and round the yard to break it in so that it would lead easily when it was older. This took the combined strength of four of us, and even then the animal only just moved.

One other day I was lucky enough to go with one of the farm hands to a cattle market about nine miles away, where some of the livestock from the farm was going to be sold. This little excursion proved very interesting and also very profitable, as more money was forthcoming than was expected.

During the last week of my stay, harvesting was commenced, and although we had to stop one day because a small part of the binder became broken and had to be replaced, a good deal of cutting was done.

All too quickly the month ended, and I soon found myself in a train headed back south; but the holiday had done me good and I had helped out the farmer a little with the extra work, so everybody was satisfied.

If anybody is wondering what to do with his next holiday, I can strongly recommend a month on a farm as both helpful and healthful.

R. Ford.

## SPORTS 1943

The School Sports were held on June 8th. The trophies were presented by Miss Headington. The Champion House was again Hampden, who gained more than double the number of points gained by their nearest competitors.

### Results

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP :	1 Hampden 114 points.	3 Milton 46 points
	2 Gray 50½ "	4 Herschel 38½ "
INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP :	1 P. Ford (Ha) 19 points	3 (tied) H. C. Barlow (Gr) 8 pts.
	2 R. Christie (Ha) 13 "	F. H. Jackson (Ha) 8 "
HIGHEST NUMBER OF POINTS GAINED FOR HOUSE :		
Class II :	1 M. F. H. Knight (Ha) 8 points.	2 (tied) J. Haworth (Gr) 7 points.
		E. C. Coe (Ha) 6 "
Class III :	1 R. L. Knight (Ha) 8 points.	4 D. A. J. Foster (Ha) 6 points.
	2 (tied) R. T. Harding (Ha) 7 ; J. K. McDougall (Gr) 7 points.	

### INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

#### Class I

100 YARDS.—I, R. Christie (Ha) ; 2, P. Ford (Ha) ; 3, F. B. Jackson (Ha),; 4, P. A. Egelstaff (Ha) ; 11 1/5 sec.  
 220 YARDS.—I, R. Christie (Ha) ; 2, P. Ford (Ha) ; 3, F. B. Jackson (Ha) ; 4, J. E. Stock (Gr) ; 25 sec.  
 HIGH JUMP.—I, F. B. Jackson (Ha) ; 2, V. L. Woodford (Gr) ; 3, J. E. Stock (Gr) ; 4, D. W. Egelstaff (He) ; 4 ft. 8 in.  
 LONG JUMP.—I, R. Christie (Ha) ; 2, P. Ford (Ha) ; 3, D. H. Kerridge (Mi) ; 4, J. E. Stock (Gr) ; 19 ft. 9 in.  
 PUTTING THE SHOT.—I, P. Ford (Ha) ; 2, R. W. Fry (Mi) ; 3, H. C. Barlow (Gr) ; 4, J. H. Armstrong (Ha) ; 50 ft. 10 in.  
 THROWING THE JAVELIN.—I, P. Ford (Ha) ; 2, H. C. Barlow (Gr.) ; 3, R. Ford (Ha) ; 4, R. Christie (Ha) ; 138 ft. 2 in.  
 THROWING THE DISCUS.—I, C. N. Furnivall (Ha) ; 2, H. C. Barlow (Gr.) ; 3, P. Ford (Ha) ; 4, J. L. D. Bligh (Mi) ; 88 ft. 9 in.  
 RELAY.—I, Hampden House (W. H. Smith, P. Ford, R. Christie, F. B. Jackson) ; 2, Milton ; 3, Gray ; 4, Herschel ; 1 min. 49 1/5 sec.  
 CROSS-COUNTRY.—I, Herschel ; 2, Gray and Milton (tied) ; 4, Hampden. (Individual results : 1, D. H. Kerridge (Mi) ; 2, G. M. Fraser (Gr) ; 3, E. A. Lowden (Ha) ; 4, D. J. Jones (Mi) ; 29 min.  
 HALF-MILE.—I, D. H. Kerridge ; 2, J. E. Stock ; 3, R. Harman ; 4, J. J. Sexton ; 2 min. 14 sec.

#### Open Event

MILE HANDICAP.—I, C. D. Trott ; 2, R. Harman ; 3, A. Webster ; 4, D. H. Kerridge ; 4 min. 51 4/5 sec.

## Class II

100 YARDS.—I, M. F. H. Knight (Ha) ; 2, R. E. Hurn (Gr) ; 3, G. W. Dixon (Mi) ; 4, B. J. Poupard (Ha) ; 13 1/5 sec.  
 220 YARDS.—I, M. F. H. Knight (Ha) ; 2, B. J. Poupard (Ha) ; 3, E. R. Baigent (Ha) ; 4, E. R. Smart (Ma) ; 30 1/5 sec.  
 HIGH JUMP.—I, D. P. Lynch (Mi) ; 2, E. R. Smart (Mi) ; 3, E. C. Coe (Ha) ; 4, G. W. Bailey (Mi) ; 4 ft. 0½ in.  
 LONG JUMP.—I, E. C. Coe (Ha) ; 2, tied, G. W. Dixon (Mi), E. A. Foreman (Ha) ; 15 ft. 1 in.  
 PUTTING THE SHOT.—I, J. Haworth (Gr) ; 2, D. F. W. Bridges (Mi) ; 3, M. A. Ford (He) ; 4, D. P. Lynch (Mi) ; 39 ft. 10 in.  
 THROWING THE DISCUS.—I, L. P. Bagge (Ha) ; 2, M. A. Ford (He) ; 3, R. Sugars (Mi) ; 4, E. R. Smart (Mi) ; 79 ft.  
 RELAY.—I, Gray (J. Haworth, C. D. Trott, R. E. Hurn, R. W. Harris) ; 2, Hampden ; 3, Milton ; 4, Herschel ; 1 min. 26 3/5 sec.  
 CROSS-COUNTRY.—I, Gray ; 2, Hampden ; 3, Milton ; 4, Herschel. Individual results : 1, C. D. Trott (Gr) ; 2, W. H. Laybourne (Ha) ; 3, J. Haworth (Gr) ; 4, K. McLaughlin (Mi) ; 17 min. 40 sec.

## Class III

100 YARDS.—I, J. K. McDougall (Gr) ; 2, R. T. Harding (Ha) ; 3, R. Comber (He) ; 4, A. J. Lucas (Gr) ; 14 2/5 sec.  
 220 YARDS.—I, R. T. Harding (Ha) ; 2, J. K. McDougall (Gr) ; 3, F. W. Brown (Gr) ; 4, G. D. White (Ha) ; 32 sec.  
 HIGH JUMP.—I, B. J. Haisman (He) ; 2, S. W. Jones (He) ; 3, C. Bateman (Mi) ; 4, M. F. Madelin (Ha) ; 3 ft. 0 in.  
 LONG JUMP.—I, R. J. Turvey (He) ; 2, R. L. Knight (Ha) ; 3, M. Rowland (He) ; 4, D. A. J. Foster (Ha) ; 13 ft. 9½ in.  
 PUTTING THE SHOT.—I, R. L. Knight (Ha) ; 2, I. A. Ferguson (Gr) ; 3, A. D. Akers (Mi) ; 4, D. L. Lane (Gr) ; 32 ft. 3 in.  
 HOP, STEP AND JUMP.—I, M. P. Madelin (Ha) ; 2, D. A. J. Foster (Ha) ; 3, A. Mabbot (He) ; 4, J. F. Davis (Mi) ; 23 ft. 5 in.  
 RELAY.—I, Hampden (D. A. J. Foster, R. L. Knight, D. Anderson, G. D. White) ; 2, Milton ; 3, Herschel ; 4, Gray ; 1 min. 42 2/5 sec.  
 CROSS-COUNTRY.—I (tied), Hampden and Herschel ; 3, Milton ; 4, Gray. Individual results : 1, G. D. S. Stanton (Mi) ; 2, A. Webster (He) ; 3, D. A. J. Foster (Ha) ; 4, P. J. Haisman (He) ; 7 min. 58 sec.

## SWIMMING SPORTS 1942

The Swimming Sports were held at the Social Centre on July 23rd. The principal excitement, from the point of view of the spectators, was the Knockout "Horseback" Tournament—a new event which replaces the Obstacle Race, and an aquatic sport which the school can claim to have invented. The Homeric contest in the senior semi-finals between Groves-Wickham and C. Eustance-Doig will long be remembered.

### Results

#### Class I and Open

200 YARDS FREE-STYLE.—I, Bennett (3 min. 37 sec.) ; 2, C. Eustance ; 3, Field.  
 100 YARDS FREE-STYLE.—I, C. Eustance (1 min. 29 1/5 sec.) ; 2, Bennett ; 3, Reynolds.  
 ONE LENGTH BACK-STROKE.—I, C. Eustance (30 1/5 sec.) ; 2, Groves ; 3, Omer.  
 ONE LENGTH FREE-STYLE.—I, C. Eustance (25 1/5 sec.) ; 2, Groves ; 3, Reynolds.  
 ONE LENGTH BREAST-STROKE.—I, Omer (28 3/5 sec.) ; 2, Groves ; 3, Field.  
 BEST THREE DIVES.—I, Groves ; 2, Omer ; 3, C. Eustance.  
 DIVING FOR PLATES.—I, Field (7) ; 2 (tied) Bennett and U. Klemperer.  
 KNOCKOUT "HORSEBACK" TOURNAMENT.—Senior, Reynolds and Bennett ; Junior, Rees and Fletcher.

#### Class 2

ONE LENGTH FREE-STYLE.—I, Oliver ; 2, Wright ; 3, Fagg.  
 ONE LENGTH BREAST-STROKE.—I, Springfield ; 2, Schwaetzer ; 3, U. Klemperer.  
 BEST THREE DIVES.—I, Field ; 2, U. Klemperer ; 3, Oliver.  
 Champion in Class 2 : Oliver.

#### Class 3

ONE LENGTH FREE-STYLE.—I, D. Werrell ; 2, S. Hammond ; 3, Knight.  
 ONE LENGTH BREAST-STROKE.—I, Catchpole ; 2, Hammond ; 3, Baldwin.  
 BEST TWO DIVES.—I, Hammond ; 2, Catchpole ; 3, Owen.  
 Champion in Class 3 : Hammond.

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP.—Winner : C. Eustance (12 points) ; runner-up, Groves (9 points).  
 INTER-HOUSE RELAY RACE.—Winners Gray ; runners-up, Milton.

## CRICKET 1942

OFFICIALS : Captain, J. E. Stock ; Vice-Captain, P. Ford ; Committee, Canon, Bryant and May.

Team : Stock, Canon, Omer, May, Bryant, Biggs, P. Ford, Cullimore, Robotham, Griffith, Farmer, Martin played in several games.

Results, 1st XI			
v. MAIDENHEAD	A.	Lost.	Maidenhead 100 (Canon 5-31, Ford 3-30), School 51 (Omer 10, Cullimore 9).
v. EGHAM.	A.	Won.	Egham 24 (Canon 6-13, Ford 3-7), School 72 (Farmer 14 n.o., Omer 12).
v. WINDSOR.	H.	Won.	Windsor 65 (Canon 6-22, Ford 3-32), School 66 for 4 (Canon 19, Cullimore 15, Stock 13, Omer 12).
v. WYCOMBE.	A.	Tied.	Wycombe 64 (Farmer 5-5, Robotham 2-15), School 64 (Griffith 20, Biggs 16 n.o.).
v. WINDSOR.	A.	Won.	Windsor 13 (Canon 5-7, Ford 4-6), School 99 (Canon 37, Ford 31).
v. ASHFORD.	A.	Drew.	Ashford 80 for 5 (Ford 3-36, Robotham 2-24), School 34 for 8 (Omer 9).
v. WYCOMBE.	H.	Lost.	Wycombe 66 (Ford 6-17, Farmer 3-20), School 57 (Bryant 19, Griffith 13).
v. UXBRIDGE.	H.	Won.	Uxbridge 35 (Ford 7-12, Farmer 1-3), School 56 for 6, Canon 26 n.o., 23 n.o.).
v. STAFF.	H.	Won.	Staff 104 (Mr. A. E. Underwood 77 n.o., Robotham 5-12), School 149 for 6 (Canon 19, Griffith 30, Stock 25, May 14 n.o.).

Summary : Played 9, Won 5, Lost 2, Draw 1, Tied 1.

As the results show, this was quite a successful season, the team playing very well except in the match at Ashford, in which Canon was unable to play and there was no substitute. Against Wycombe the loss was only by 9 runs.

Almost throughout the season the batting, bowling and fielding were of a high standard. Canon, Griffith and Cullimore were all hard-hitters and showed a good sprinkling of fours in their scores, but most of the players batted steadily, being content with score varying from 5 to 10. Stock and Canon usually opened the batting and Canon also opened the bowling with Ford. These were greatly helped by Farmer, May and Robotham, whose bowling averages were very good.

Griffith kept wicket extremely well throughout the season and punished the opponents' bowling severely. Fielding was good, there being 28 catches held during the season. Stock and Griffith 5 each, P. Ford 6, Bryant and Cullimore 3 each, Canon and Biggs 2 each, Robotham and Farmer 1 each. R. Ford did well, taking 2 catches in his only game.

A most enjoyable match was played against the masters, which the school won easily. This was an innovation, and one which proved most popular. The high light of the game was Mr. Underwood's score of 77 not out, the final score for the masters being 104; but, unfortunately for them, their bowling was not strong and their score was easily passed, the list of results showing some high scores.

Results, 2nd XI			
v. MAIDENHEAD.	H.	Won.	Maidenhead 43 (Farmer 8-11, R. Ford 2-1), School 90 (Summers 22, Farmer 22).
v. EGHAM.	H.	Won.	Egham 26 (Rose 6-9, Guest 3-8), School 40 (Guest 16, Lord 12).
v. WINDSOR.	A.	Won.	Windsor 43 (Guest 3-7, Thomas 1-2), School 51 for 2 (Lord 23 n.o., Guest 18 n.o.).
v. WYCOMBE.	H.	Won.	Wycombe 29 (Guest 3-5, Ford 5-20), School 52 (Martin 24 retired).
v. SHELL XI.	H.	Won.	Shell 15 (Ford 4-4, Rose 4-6), School 67 (Guest 14, Edwards 14, Summers 13).
v. WINDSOR.	H.	Won.	Windsor 27 (Rose 9-14), School 67 (Lord 33 n.o.).
v. ASHFORD.	H.	Won.	Ashford 21 (Ford 5-5, Rose 4-5), School 25 for 1 (Martin 13, Rose and Lord 6 n.o.).
v. WYCOMBE.	A.	Won.	Wycombe 22 (Thomas 2-3, Ford 4-7, Rose 2-7), School 57 for 5 (Ford 44 n.o.).
v. UXBRIDGE.	A.	Won.	Uxbridge 25 (Ford 2-3, Guest 4-6, Rose 4-13).

Summary : Played 9, Won 9.

This plainly was an extremely successful season for the 2nd XI, all the matches being easily won. The standard of play was high throughout in batting, bowling and fielding, and there were some outstanding performances. Fraser held five catches in one match and four in another; D. J. Rose took 5 wickets for 0 in one over, and the highest score, of 44 not out, was made by R. Ford.

In Summers the 2nd XI had an extremely efficient wicket-keeper and a batsman who could knock up a good score and was always aggressively disposed towards our opponents' bowling. Lord and Martin could be depended upon for high scores, Guest and R. Ford for both batting and bowling, and Rose for a good collection of wickets. In Groves, the captain of the team, we had a steady batsman and a keen fielder, whose careful batting in the first match prevented what threatened to be a total collapse. He was usually content to play defensively, staying in a long time and allowing the hitters to increase the score.

W.W.

## FOOTBALL 1942

OFFICIALS : Captain, J. E. Stock ; Vice-Captain, F. J. E. Robotham ; Committee, P. Ford, G. Fraser, L. Thomas, P. Brittain, J. Griffith.

Team : Robotham ; Griffith, Ford ; May, Stock, Fraser ; Edwards, Jackson, Nicholas, Thomas, Squires.

Results.			
		1st XI	2nd XI
v. WYCOMBE	...	A. Won 7-0	Won 3-1
v. MAIDENHEAD	...	A. Won 5-1	Won 6-1
v. OLD PALUDIANS	...	H. Lost 1-2	L.V.S. Lost 1-2
v. WYCOMBE	...	H. Won 9-1	Won 3-1
v. MAIDENHEAD	...	H. Won 3-0	Won 4-1
v. R.A.F.	...	H. Lost 1-4	LATYMER Won 4-1
v. EGHAM	...	A. Won 5-0	Won 5-0
v. UXBRIDGE	...	A. Won 3-0	Won 5-1
v. N.F.S.	...	H. Won 1-0	L.V.S. Won 4-2
v. UXBRIDGE	...	H. Won 3-0	Drew 2-2
v. OLD PALUDIANS	...	H. Lost 1-3	EGHAM Won 9-0

SUMMARY : 1st XI : Played 11 Won 8 Lost 3 Drew 0 Goals F. 39, A. 11  
2nd XI : Played 11 Won 9 Lost 1 Drew 1 Goals F. 37, A. 12

The table of results shows that this was a very successful season for our 1st XI, the three games which were lost being played against older and heavier teams, whose record for good football is high. Although the match against the R.A.F. was lost, it was a most enjoyable game and our team played much better than is indicated by the score. The Old Boys' team, of course, consists of the best players from the school 1st XI's of two or three years, so it is not surprising that the team lost the two matches against them, although only by narrow margins.

The matches against school teams were highly successful, the smallest difference between scores being three goals. Wycombe came off very badly against our team, losing the games by 0-7 and 1-9, while a men's team from the N.F.S. was beaten by the only goal of the match.

The table shows that of the 11 goals recorded against us, only two were scored by school teams, while five were scored in the two Old Pals' and four in the R.A.F. matches.

We were unfortunate in losing Brittain half-way through the term, but Jackson ably took his place. Nicholas, at centre-forward, was our great goal-scorer, while Squires took many fine shots and centres from his position at left-wing. The half-back line was perhaps the strongest part of the team, its members—May, Stock and Fraser—often being commended in the reports on matches. Behind them was a powerful and steady defence with P. Ford and Griffith as backs and Robotham as goalkeeper.

Robinson was very unfortunate, as a good season's football was broken off short by an accident in which he broke his ankle.

2nd XI Team : Deeks, goal ; other players cannot be given places as the team was greatly changed during the term. Members of the team were : Ainsley, Robinson, Armstrong, Sexton, E. Packham, D. Packham, Sherwood, W. H. Smith, Jackson, Farmer, R. Ford, Dewar, Reynolds and Guest. Armstrong was captain during the term. Deeks played extremely well in goal and earned himself a high reputation, although handicapped by not being very tall. The team played very soundly throughout the term, and their efforts were rewarded.

## FOOTBALL 1943

OFFICIALS : Captain, J. E. Stock ; Vice-Captain, F. J. E. Robotham ; Committee, G. Fraser, P. Ford, P. May, J. Griffith, L. Thomas.

Team : Robotham ; Griffith, Ford ; May, Stock, Fraser ; Edwards, Jackson, Bond, Thomas, Squires.

Results			
		1st XI	2nd XI
v. WYCOMBE.	H.	Won 5-0	EGHAM H. Won 3-1
v. R.A.F.	H.	Drew 2-2	EGHAM A. Won 5-3
v. WYCOMBE.	A.	Won 5-1	EGHAM A. Won 3-1
			Drew 2-2

Although the small number of fixtures prevented the team from settling down, the members did very well indeed in drawing the R.A.F. match. Bond, who replaced Nicholas, played well, and Varney, deputising for Ford, was very quick, making up for his lack of great weight.

A very enjoyable match was played between the 1st XI and 2nd XI and Staff. Messrs. Underwood, Luck and Vivash represented the Staff, the first showing that he can play football as well as cricket. The 1st XI won by 4 goals to 1.

The 2nd XI, too, had few fixtures, but took full advantage of them and showed how good they were, winning three and drawing one. They must be specially commended for winning both their matches against Egham 1st XI by 3 goals to 1.

Both terms showed excellent results for our teams, and we must congratulate them as they deserve.

W. Warr.

### THE OLD PALUDIANS' FOOTBALL CLUB

After their very successful 1941-42 season, the school 1st XI decided that they would enter themselves for the Slough and District Minor League for the 1942-43 season. As the majority had by then left school, it was decided to call the team The Old Paludians' Minor Football Club. The following officials for the season were then elected:—

Captain, Bryant; Vice-Captain, Canon; Secretary, Hamblett.

To the latter must also go the credit for getting the team together again.

The team, with only 16 members, had an excellent season. They won the League and the 6-a-side tournament, which was held on May 1st. Their record in League games is worthy of note:—Played 14, won 12, drawn 1, lost 1; goals for 114, goals against 15.

The side was also entered for the Berks and Bucks Minor Cup, and reached the final. This was played against Reading Y.M.C.A. on March 20th at Maidenhead, and was lost by the narrow margin of 1—0.

The most pleasing item of interest was that three of the team were still at school, so that a link remained between Past and Present.

At the end of the season a very pleasant dinner was held in the School Hall, and here the trophies were presented to the Headmaster, who as president of the club had maintained a keen interest in its activities.

During the season a "nursery" club was formed, called Stoke Juniors. This team entered in the Junior Section of the Minor League and won handsomely. Most of the boys who played are still at school and were all under 16, so that plenty of talent is at hand for future seasons.

### HOUSE NOTES GRAY

#### Summer 1942

OFFICIALS: Captain, J. E. Stock; Vice-Captain, G. Fraser; Secretary, W. J. Omer; Committee, V. L. Woodford, L. Thomas.

CRICKET. Seniors: v. Hampden. Won 42—27 (Stock 3 for 8, Omer 5 for 18).  
v. Herschel. Won 58—42 (Stock 7 wickets for 18, Quest scored 11).  
v. Milton. Won 97 (for 5)—87 (Martin scored 22, Stock 21, Fraser 15).  
Points 6. Position 1st.  
Intermediates: v. Hampden. Won 56—31.  
v. Milton. Drew 73—33 for 5.  
v. Herschel. Lost 66—71.  
Points 3.

SWIMMING SPORTS: We were once more very successful, Eustance retaining the individual championship. The House Relay team, consisting of Eustance, Omer, Field and Bennett, was first.

#### Autumn 1942—Summer 1943

OFFICIALS: Captain, J. E. Stock; Vice-Captain, G. Fraser; Secretary, W. J. Omer; Committee: V. L. Woodford, L. Thomas.

FOOTBALL. Seniors: v. Hampden. Won 7—1.  
v. Herschel. Won 2—1.  
v. Milton. Won 6—0.  
Points 6. Position 1st.  
Intermediates: v. Hampden. Lost.  
v. Herschel. Lost.  
v. Milton. Lost.

Points 0. Position 4th.  
3rd Forms. Points 6. Position 1st.  
2nd Forms. Points 6. Position 1st.

This was a very good season, although our intermediate result rather let us down in the final result. Senior Team: Dobson, Cooper, Farmer, Woodford, Stock, Fraser, Edwards, Bond, Nicholas, Thomas, Eggleton.

#### Spring 1942

OFFICIALS: As above.

FOOTBALL. Seniors: v. Hampden. Drew 2—2.  
v. Herschel. Won 3—0.  
v. Milton. Drew 1—0.  
Points 4. Position tied 1st.  
Intermediates: Points 0. Position 4th.  
3rd Forms: Position 4th.  
2nd Forms: Points 2. Position 3rd.  
But for the Seniors, not a very successful season!

CROSS COUNTRY: Seniors: Tied 2nd. 82 points (Fraser 2nd).  
Intermediates: 1st. 49 points.  
Juniors: 4th.

At the beginning of this, the Summer term, our Vice-Captain, G. Fraser, joined the R.A.F. We all wish him the very best of luck. Hamblett, another old member of Gray House, is now serving with Fleet Air Arm.

W.J.O.

### HAMPDEN

#### Summer Term 1942

OFFICIALS: Captain, P. Ford; Vice-Captain, F. H. Biggs; Secretary, C. N. Furnivall; Committee, W. J. Griffith, D. S. Palmer.

CRICKET RESULTS. Seniors  
v. Gray. Lost 43—27.  
v. Milton. Won 36 for 5—16.  
v. Herschel. Won 83—60.  
Points 4. Position tied 1st.  
III's  
v. Gray. Won 31 for 4—25.  
v. Milton. Lost 44—40.  
v. Herschel. Won 66—41.  
Points 4. Position 4th.  
IV's  
v. Gray. Lost 30—56 for 7.  
v. Milton. Lost 60—107 for 6.  
v. Herschel. Lost 39—68.  
Points 0. Position 4th.  
II's  
v. Gray. Won 23 for 1—20.  
v. Milton. Won 56 for 7—44.  
v. Herschel. Won 47 for 0—10.  
Points 2. Position 3rd.

The final House position for cricket was 2nd.

In the Swimming Sports, Hampden did not do very well, our position in the House relay being 3rd. However, C. B. Oliver carried away the championship of Class II.

At the end of this term we were very sorry to lose, among other leavers, F. H. Biggs, D. S. Palmer and R. Canon, who have always been conspicuous on the sports field.

#### Autumn Term 1942

OFFICIALS: Captain, P. Ford; Secretary, C. N. Furnivall; Committee Member, W. J. Griffith.

FOOTBALL RESULTS. Seniors  
v. Gray. Lost 7—1.  
v. Herschel. Won 3—0.  
v. Milton. Drew 1—1.  
Position 2nd with 3 pts.  
Points 1. Position 4th.  
III's  
v. Gray. Lost 1—0.  
v. Herschel. Won 2—0.  
v. Milton. Drew 1—1.  
Position tied 2nd with Milton.  
Points 0. Position 4th.  
IV's  
v. Gray. Won 2—0.  
v. Herschel. Lost 2—1.  
v. Milton. Drew 1—1.  
Position 3rd with 3 pts.  
Points 2. Position 3rd.  
II's  
v. Gray. Lost 4—0.  
v. Herschel. Won 3—0.  
v. Milton. Drew 1—1.  
Position 2nd. 3 pts.  
Final House position 2nd with 12 pts.

#### Spring Term 1943

OFFICIALS: Captain, P. Ford; Vice-Captain, W. J. Griffith; Secretary, C. N. Furnivall; Committee, J. Armstrong, R. Christie.

FOOTBALL RESULTS. Seniors  
v. Gray. Drew 2—2.  
v. Herschel. Won 4—0.  
v. Milton. Drew 5—5.  
Position, tied with Gray and Milton for 1st place, with 4 pts.  
Points 2. Position 4th.  
III's  
v. Gray. Won 2—0.  
v. Herschel. Won 2—0.  
v. Milton. Won 1—0.  
Position 1st with 6 pts.  
Points 2. Position 4th.  
IV's  
v. Gray. Won 3—1.  
v. Herschel. Lost 3—0.  
v. Milton. Won 1—0.  
Position 1st with 4 pts.  
Points 0. Position 4th.  
II's  
v. Gray. Won 1—0.  
v. Herschel. Drew 0—0.  
v. Milton. Drew 2—2.  
Position, tied with Milton for 1st place with 4 pts.  
Final House Position 1st with 18 pts.

#### CROSS-COUNTRY.

In Class I, Hampden finished 4th with 98 pts. E. A. Lowden ran well, coming in 3rd.

Laybourne, in Class II, came 2nd and the final position for the House in the Class was 2nd with 64 pts.

In Class III, we tied with Herschel for 1st place.

At the end of this term we were sorry to lose our Vice-Captain, W. J. Griffith, who has joined the Royal Navy.

We deeply regret to hear that Mr. A. E. Legrand lost his life on Active Service in North Africa. He was an Assistant Housemaster and was very popular among the boys, devoting much of his time to coaching our boys on the sports side of the school.

C.N.F.

## HERSCHEL

## Autumn Term

OFFICIALS : Captain, F. J. E. Robotham. Unfortunately, we lost all our other officials at the end of the last school year. No others were elected.

FOOTBALL.	Seniors	IV's	III's	II's
v. Milton.	Won 5—0	Drew	Lost	Drew
v. Gray.	Lost 1—2			
v. Hampden.	Lost 0—3	Won	Lost	Lost
	Position			

We were sorry to lose at the end of this term G. Ainsley and D. J. Rose, both of whom shone on the cricket field.

## Spring Term

OFFICIALS : Captain, F. J. E. Robotham ; Vice-Captain, P. B. May ; Secretary, W. Warr ; Committee, R. Ford, J. A. Squires.

FOOTBALL.	Seniors	IV's	III's	II's
v. Milton.	Lost 0—1	Lost	Lost	Lost
v. Gray.	Lost 1—4			
v. Hampden.	Lost 0—4	Won	Lost	Drew
	Position 4th	3rd tied	3rd	4th

Some compensation for the bad football results was afforded by the winning by the House of the Senior Cross-Country Run. Although our first man in, M. A. Basden, was fifth, the general good standard of running won the race, our last man being 30th out of 48.

It was with great regret that we lost Reid, Tanner, I. S. Cummins and our captain, Robotham, who has played many a fine game as goalkeeper for both House and School.

## Summer Term

OFFICIALS : Captain, R. Ford ; Vice-Captain, P. B. May ; Secretary, W. Warr ; Committee, P. A. Egelstaff, J. A. Squires.

## CRICKET.

So far the Seniors have played only one match—against Milton, which they won by 9 runs.

Herschel 72. R. Ford 25, P. A. Egelstaff 21.

Milton 63. P. B. May 6 for 30, R. Ford 3 for 16.

In the 1st XI's first match, four Herschel boys played—R. Ford, P. B. May, A. Rose, J. A. Squires.  
W.W.

## MILTON

## Autumn Term 1942

OFFICIALS : Captain, D. J. Dewar ; Vice-Captain, E. J. Packham ; Secretary, L. A. Watson ; Committee, G. J. Deeks and C. Varney.

FOOTBALL RESULTS.	Seniors	IV	III	II
v. Herschel.	L. 0—5	Drew	Won	Drew
v. Hampden.	D. 1—1	Drew	Drew	Drew
v. Gray.	L. 0—6	Won	Lost	Lost
	Pts. 1 ; Pos. 4th	Pts. 4 ; Pos. 1st	Pts. 3 ; Pos. 2nd	Pts. 2 ; Pos. 3rd

## Spring Term 1943

OFFICIALS : These were the same as for the previous term.

FOOTBALL RESULTS.	Seniors	IV	III	II
v. Herschel.	W. 1—0	W. 2—1	W. 3—1	W. 4—0
v. Hampden.	D. 5—5	L. 0—1	L. 0—1	D. 2—2
v. Gray.	D. 1—1	D. 2—2	D. 2—2	D. 0—0
	Pts. 4 ; Pos. 1st (tied)	Pts. 3 ; Pos. 2nd (tied)	Pts. 3 ; Pos. 2nd	Pts. 4 ; Pos. 1st (tied)

In the cross-country races, the following positions were obtained  
Seniors 2nd (tied). Intermediates, 3rd Juniors, 3rd.

D. H. Kerridge was 1st, and D. J. Jones 4th, in the Senior class.

G. J. Deeks left at the end of the term.

L.A.W.